

# **News**

Macomb County  
Office of Public Affairs



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## **COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES TO HOLD TERRORIST/HOSTAGE EXERCISE**

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. – The Macomb County Department of Emergency Management in cooperation with the Macomb Intermediate School District, five area high schools and more than 15 other county, state and federal agencies will hold a terrorist/hostage training exercise to test local emergency response plans.

The drill will take place from 8 a.m. until about noon Thursday, Sept. 22, at the five local schools: Clintondale High School, Clinton Township, L'Anse Creuse High School, Harrison Township, Lincoln High School, Warren, Roseville High School, Roseville and South Lake High School, St. Clair Shores.

“Although all of the schools will follow a similar scenario, there are a few variations of the scenario to test for things such as chemical attacks, bomb attacks and hostage negotiation situations,” said Vicki Wolber, assistant director of the Macomb County Office of Emergency Management. “We are really going to try and test for every possible situation we could face in a real attack.”

Just as in a real attack, the drill will activate area Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)/Emergency Response Technician (ERT) teams. The setup and operation of the unified incident command system and the emergency operations center will also be tested.

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The schools will be practicing and testing the protocol in their emergency response plans. These plans address procedures such as “lockdown”, evacuation, chain of command, parent reunification and communication.

“For many years Macomb County schools have been working with local first responders for the purpose of coordinating comprehensive emergency management and crisis response plans,” said Nancy Buyle, crisis intervention specialist at MISD. “This exercise provides both schools and community agencies the opportunity to practice the plans that were developed through many hours of collaboration. Our goal is to ensure the safety of all our residents. This exercise with the schools will help us all be better prepared for any incident that may arise.”

Major agencies participating in the drill include: Macomb County Emergency Management, Center Line Public Safety, Clinton Township Emergency Management, Clinton Township fire and police departments, Eastpointe fire and police, Fraser Public Safety, Harrison Township Fire Department, Roseville fire and police departments, St. Clair Shores fire and police departments, the Macomb County Sheriff’s Department, Warren Emergency Management, Warren fire and police departments, Med Star Ambulance, Macomb County RACES, Universal Ambulance, MISD, the Michigan State Police and the FBI.

For more information contact Macomb County Emergency Management, Vicki Wolber at 586-469-5270. For more information on the schools’ involvement contact MISD, Deborah McKillop at 586-228-3515 or Nancy Buyle at 586-228-3439.

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